A Sensory Tub Garden
inspired by *Up in the Garden, Down in the Dirt*

What kiddo doesn’t like a sensory tub? My kids love the mix of “feel” in this one: small and large beans, rubbery and sticky insects, and the way the fake flowers stick into the mix and stand up.

Step 1: Supplies

• A tub or box big enough for little hands to play in
• An assortment of beans (we used black beans, split peas, and lima beans)
• Fake bugs and worms
• Fake flowers

Step 2: Layers

As we read *Up in the Garden*, Jane was enamoured by all the pieces of the garden. We talked about the roles of each piece as we built our sensory tub, adding one item at a time.

Step 3: Mix

Play! Jane and Will loved digging down in the mix and seeing what they could pull up. Sam liked putting the worms in the soil and “re-potting” the flowers, being very intentional about each layer added to his pot. And when the kids are done playing, it’s fun to sprout some of the beans and observe the early stages of a growing plant.